

Joseph R. Jones House  
8 Riverside Drive  
Binghamton  
Broome County  
New York

HABS No. NY-5562

HABS  
NY,  
4-BING,  
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-5562

## JOSEPH R. JONES HOUSE

HABS  
NY,  
4-BING,

Location: 8 Riverside Drive, Binghamton, Broome County, New York 4-

Present Owner: Dr. I. J. Rosefsky, 1 Stratford Place, Binghamton, New York

Present Occupant: The Heart Association and two tenants.

Present Use: Offices on first floor, two small apartments on second floor.

Brief Statement  
of Significance:

Although relocated from its original site within the same city block, the Jones House retains its fine Greek Revival style in both the exterior and interior detailing and illustrates the elegance of New York State domestic architecture of the 1840's.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners:

1866 - Owner is listed as J. H. Jones. (Topographical Atlas of Broome County, 1866).

1872 - Joseph R. Jones, bonnet bleacher and manufacturer of straw goods, is listed as owner. (Child's Gazetteer, 1872).

1876 - The owner is "Mrs. Jones". (County Historical Atlas, 1876). It was known as the Jones House. (Seward, pp. 319-320).

1940 - Other owners not known except Daniel M. Winans (after move) until present owner bought it from the Willis Sharpe Kilmer estate in the winter of 1940-41.

2. Date of erection: 1830-40.

3. Architect: Unknown.

4. Builder, suppliers, etc.: Unknown. Local white pine wood. Silver plated doorknobs.

5. Original plan and construction: The house appears to have been little altered. The interior Greek Revival detailing still remains in place around the windows and doors.

6. Alterations and additions: Only changes are: (1) a bathroom on second floor, (2) door from stair hall to the hall for back bedroom, and (3) a powder room on first floor.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:  
No special historical events connected with this property have been discovered.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views: None known.

2. Bibliography:

Child's Gazetteer and Business Directory (1872-73) cites on p. 303 a Joseph R. Jones of G. C. Jones & Company, bonnet bleachers and manufacturers of straw goods, and Miss Julia J. Jones, milliner.

Seward, William F. Binghamton and Broome County: A History. 3 vols. Lewis Hist. Publ. Co., N.Y. & Chicago, 1924. See Chap. XVIII, p. 320 (written by Alfred H. Bartoo).

County Historical Atlas, 1876.

Topographical Atlas of Broome County, 1866.

Prepared by Clement G. Bowers  
June, 1963

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A fine, relatively common example of the Greek Revival house in the Southern Tier of New York State.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Number of stories: Two
2. Number of bays: Three bay front; four bays in depth.
3. Layout-shape: Rectangular: front, 33'-4"; sides: 42'-6". A later, enclosed, frame cellar entry (to doctor's office) at the rear NE corner.

4. Foundations: Random coursed ashlar foundations.
5. Wall construction: Frame with white painted matched boarding on the front elevation, and clapboarding (5/8" to weather) painted white covering the sides and rear.
6. Porches, stoops: Front porch: tetrastyle, giant Ionic order, wooden; approximately 6'-7" deep; four Ionic pilasters attached to the front elevation. Rear porch: one story, Ionic columns, hipped roof.
7. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: First floor main entry: four panelled wooden door; four light transom; side lights with four panes each over single wooden panels; battered architrave with crossettes and decorative molding.
  - b. Windows: Celler: three light casement windows. First floor front: six-over-nine lights, wooden sash (to floor). First floor sides: six-over-six lights, wooden sash. Second floor: six-over-six lights, wooden sash.
8. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Hipped roof with asphalt covering.
  - b. Cornice, eaves: Wide, simple wooden cornice.
  - c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: Single, centered, triangular wooden dormer at rear.
- G. Description of the Interior:
  1. Floor plans:
    - a. First floor: Essentially a four-room plan - the southeast room serving as both a spacious entry hall and stairhall.
    - b. Second floor: At the present time, the second floor is divided into two apartments.
  2. Stairways: Curved single-rise (19 treads) stairway with slender, turned balusters (two per tread) and turned hand-rail. There is a false, six-panelled, wooden door at the center of the back turn (between the first and second floor).
  3. Flooring: Original has been replaced by uniform hardwood flooring.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Frame with lath and plaster. Some rooms have wallpaper covering.
  5. Doorways and doors: First floor doorway between entry and main parlor (southwest room); four-panelled wooden door with decorative beaded molding; silver hardware; wide wooden architrave with crossettes.
  6. Decorative features and trim: Wide wooden baseboards.
  7. Notable hardware: Original silver-plated hardware in portions of the interior that could be investigated.
  8. Lighting, type of fixtures: Electric.
  9. Heating: Modern gas heating.
- D. Site and Surroundings: Faces south onto a relatively fashionable street of large private residences that gradually are being converted into doctors' offices, apartments, churches and synagogues. Rectangular urban lot with lawn and scattered bushes and trees.

Prepared by Eugene D. Montillon,  
Binghamton, New York,  
John Poppeliers  
April, 1964

### PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records are part of the documentation of structures in the Southern Tier of New York State, undertaken by HABS in cooperation with the Broome County Historical Society and the Valley Development Foundation, Inc.

The project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The historical material was prepared in June, 1963, by Clement G. Bowers of the Broome County Historical Society. The architectural description was prepared in April, 1964, by Eugene D. Montillon of Binghamton and John C. Poppeliers. Photographs were taken by Jack E. Boucher in March, 1963. The project was edited for deposit in the Library of Congress by Constance Werner Ramirez, July, 1974.